

## CLAIMS

1. An optical disc apparatus which performs recording or reading of data by irradiating laser light from a laser pickup onto an optical disc and which comprises a control means for performing a play control which makes the laser pickup follow a track of a predetermined area on the optical disc after recording of data is completed, seek the head of the area when the laser pickup exceeds the area, and repeat the above-described following operation and the seeking operation until a next command is issued.
2. The optical disc apparatus as defined in claim 1 in which the head of the area is at the neighborhood of the position where the recording operation is completed.
3. The optical disc apparatus as defined in claim 1 or claim 2 in which there is provided a detection means for detecting a consecutive recorded area where data are continuously recorded for a constant period of time on the optical disc or detecting a consecutive non-recorded area where no data are recorded for a constant period of time when the laser pickup is following the track of the predetermined area,  
and the control means controls the laser pickup so that it perform a hold tracking in the consecutive recorded area or in the consecutive non-recorded area when the detection means detects the consecutive recorded area or the consecutive non-recorded area.

4. The optical disc apparatus as defined in claim 3 in which the control means performs a control of switching of rotation speed of the optical disc at the hold tracking.

5. The optical disc apparatus as defined in claim 3 or claim 4 in which when the detection means receives next command while detecting the consecutive recorded area or the consecutive non-recorded area on the optical disc, the detection means interrupts the detection immediately.

6. A method for controlling the optical disc apparatus which performs recording or reading of data by irradiating laser light onto the optical disc from the laser pickup and which comprises the first step which makes the laser pickup follow the track of the predetermined area on the optical disc after recording of data is completed, seek the head of the area when the laser pickup exceeds the area, and repeat the above-described following operation and the above-described seeking operation until a next command is issued.

7. The method for controlling the optical disc apparatus as defined in claim 6 in which the head of the area is at the neighborhood of the position where the recording operation is completed.

8. The method for controlling the optical disc apparatus as defined in claim 6 or claim 7 which detects the consecutive recorded area where data are continuously recorded for a constant period of time on the optical disc or the consecutive non-recorded area

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2

and which performs the hold tracking in the consecutive recorded area or in the consecutive non-recorded area in the second step when the consecutive recorded area or the consecutive non-recorded area is detected in the first step.

10. The method for controlling the optical disc apparatus as defined in claim 8 or claim 9 in which when receiving next command while detecting the consecutive recorded area or the consecutive non-recorded area in the first step, the detection is interrupted immediately.

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